

Critical Roles & Responsibilities from other Models of Collaboration

The regional models of collaboration offer insights on the roles and responsibilities of planning and implementing TOD. The following roles were critical for the seven model regions.

Regional Planning and Vision

All seven regions included in the models of collaboration research have a unifying regional plan or vision for future growth and high-capacity regional transit that guides investment decisions and supports a land use/development framework for future station areas. These regional plans and visions are typically developed by the regional governmental or planning agency, MPO, or Council of Governments.

Local Planning, Technical Assistance in Planning, and Grant Programs

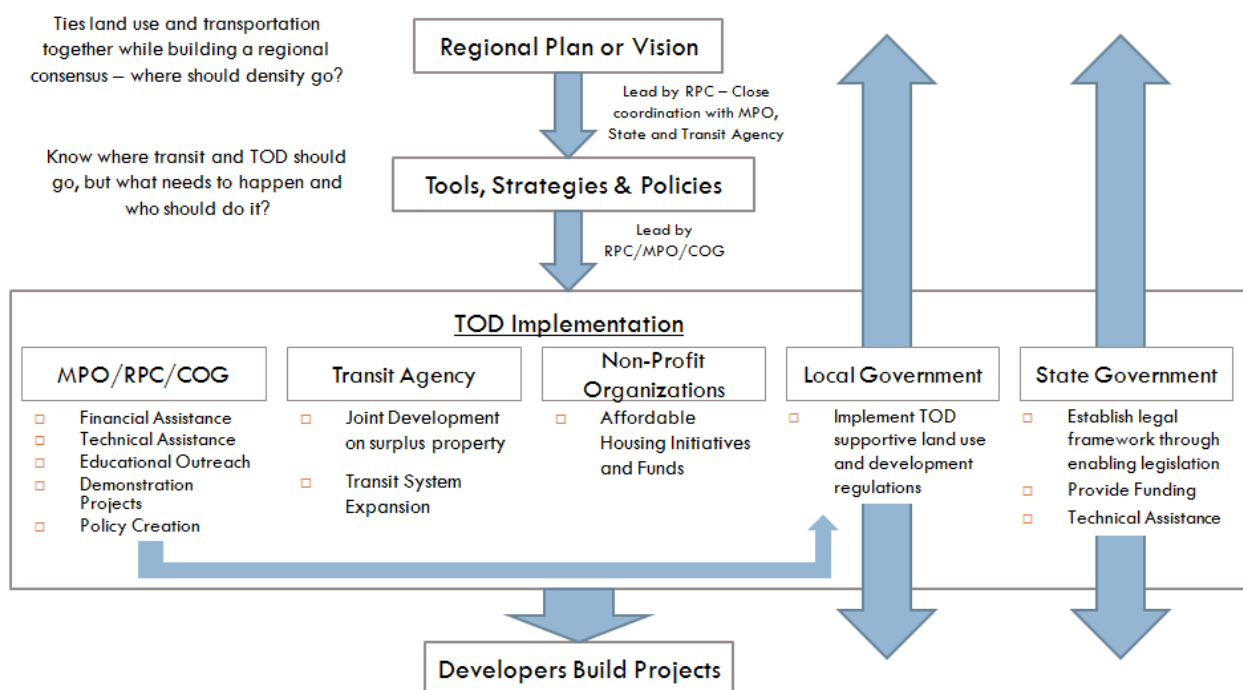
Collaboration between the regional agency and local jurisdictions is necessary for successful implementation of the regional vision. Local jurisdictions have much of the responsibility for implementing the strategies and goals of a regional plan. Most regional planning agencies and MPOs do not have the authority to directly control land use. The model regions developed several strategies to encourage the implementation of regional plans at the local level, such as planning grants for local communities to develop local plans that incorporate aspects of the regional plan (Atlanta's Livable Communities Initiative) and technical and financial assistance to local governments to utilize state-enabled land use and zoning regulations (Boston).

Funding for Transit Capital and Station Area Public Infrastructure

Investments in transit functioned as the triggering mechanism for regional TOD implementation in many of the model regions. Expansion of the transit network catalyzed TOD in the Salt Lake City, Denver, and Minneapolis/St. Paul regions. In the Boston region, state and regional agencies provide financial support for key infrastructure projects tied to TOD to spur associated private development projects. TOD funds to purchase land, TOD subsidies to help developers offset costs, funding swaps, and grant programs were all critical tools for the model regions in implementing TOD. The Seattle, Portland, and Salt Lake City regions implemented TOD demonstration projects as visible physical examples of what the regional plan envisions.

Technical Assistance in Research, Software & Tools

Regional agencies offered technical support to local jurisdictions to help them implement the TOD elements of the regional plan. The Wasatch Front Regional Council visits local jurisdictions to teach them how to use the implementation tools that were developed through the regional planning effort.



Typical Roles & Responsibilities from Model Regions